

PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Shah et al.

Serial No.: 09/891,983

Filed: June 26, 2001

For: METHODS FOR THE
SIMULTANEOUS DETECTION OF HCV
ANTIGENS AND HCV ANTIBODIES

Case No.: 6821.US.01

Examiner: Wortman, D.

Group Art Unit: 1648

Certificate of Mailing under 37
CFR §1.8(a): I hereby certify that
this paper (along with any paper
referred to as being attached or
enclosed) is being deposited with
the United States Postal Service
on the date shown below with
sufficient postage as first class
mail in an envelope addressed to
the:

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Date of Deposit: 1-15-04
Kimberly A. Iorio
Kimberly A. Iorio

DECLARATION

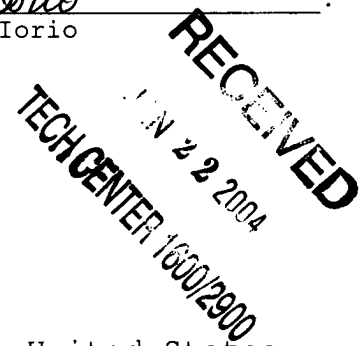
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

I, A. Scott Muerhoff, a citizen of the United States
of America and resident of Kenosha, Wisconsin, do declare
and say that:

I am a co-inventor of the application for patent filed
on June 26, 2001.

I am an Associate Research Fellow at Abbott
Laboratories, 100 Abbott Park Road, Abbott Park, IL 60064
and received my B.S. in Biology in 1983 from the University
of Wisconsin-Whitewater and my Ph.D. in Biochemistry in
1989 from the Medical College of Wisconsin.



I declare that the monoclonal antibody referred to as "107-35-54" in the present specification and claims is identical to the monoclonal antibody referred to as "H35C54" (produced by the deposited hybridoma referred to as "H35C54"), described in col. 2, lines 54-55 of U.S. Patent No. 5,753,430. Further, I declare that the monoclonal antibody referred to as "110-81-17" in the present specification and claims is identical to the monoclonal antibody referred to as "H81C17" (produced by the deposited hybridoma referred to as "H81C17"), described in col. 2, lines 52-53 of U.S. Patent No. 5,753,430. Thus, monoclonal antibody 107-35-54 and monoclonal antibody 110-81-17 were well-known and readily available to the public as of the filing date of the present application.

I declare further that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the instant application or any patent issuing thereon.

Respectfully submitted,

By: A. Scott Muerhoff
A. Scott Muerhoff

Date: Jan 07, 2004